Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

5   1. (Currently Amended) A removable memory device removably connected to a computer for bootable software delivery device for connecting in a disconnectable manner to a computer and delivering software to the computer, the software delivery removable memory device comprising:

a connection port for connecting in a disconnectable manner the software

10   delivery removable memory device to the computer;

a microcontroller located in the removable memory device and coupling the connection port for controlling the software delivery removable memory device; and

a flash memory coupling the microcontroller for storing a software;

15   wherein the microcontroller is so programmed that the software is executable by the computer only when the computer is booted up from the software delivery removable memory device.

2. (Currently Amended) The software delivery removable memory device of claim 1

20   wherein the microcontroller prevents copying of the software from the flash memory of the software delivery removable memory device.

3. (Currently Amended) The software delivery removable memory device of claim 1 wherein the connection port is an integrated drive electronics (IDE) port.

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4. (Currently Amended) The software delivery removable memory device of claim 1 wherein the connection port is a small computer system interface (SCSI) port.

5. (Currently Amended) The software delivery removable memory device of claim 1

30   wherein the connection port is a universal serial bus (USB) port.

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6. (Currently Amended) A <u>removable memory device removably connected to a computer for</u> ~~software delivery device for connecting in a disconnectable manner to a computer and~~ delivering software to the computer for providing software copy protection, the ~~software delivery~~ <u>removable memory</u> device comprising:

5   a connection port for electrically connecting in a disconnectable manner the ~~software delivery~~ <u>removable memory</u> device to the computer;

a microcontroller <u>located in the removable memory device and</u> [[,]] electrically connected to the connection port, in which an authentication program is installed for booting the computer from the

10   ~~software delivery~~ <u>removable memory</u> device;

a flash memory electrically connected to the microcontroller, the flash memory comprising a boot sector for booting the computer in accordance with the authentication program; and

a private program stored in the flash memory, the private program being

15   executable by the computer only after booting from the boot sector is performed;

wherein the authentication program instructs the microcontroller to return a virtual boot sector rather than the boot sector to the computer.

20   7. (Currently Amended) The ~~software delivery~~ <u>removable memory</u> device of claim 6 wherein the microcontroller prevents copying of the private program from the flash memory of the ~~software delivery~~ <u>removable memory</u> device.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~software delivery~~ <u>removable memory</u> device of claim 6

25   wherein the connection port is an integrated drive electronics (IDE) port.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~software delivery~~ <u>removable memory</u> device of claim 6 wherein the connection port is a small computer system interface (SCSI) port.

30   10. (Currently Amended) The ~~software delivery~~ <u>removable memory</u> device of claim 6 wherein the connection port is a universal serial bus (USB) port.

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11. (Currently Amended) The ~~software delivery~~ removable memory device of claim 6 wherein the authentication program is stored in a read only memory of the microcontroller.

5   12. (Currently Amended) A method for protecting a software, the method comprising:

providing a ~~bootable~~ removable memory device for connecting in a disconnectable manner to a computer and delivering the software to the computer, the ~~bootable~~ removable memory device comprising a flash memory for storing the software, a connection port for connecting in a

10   disconnectable manner to the computer, and a microcontroller located in the removable memory device for executing the software with the computer via the connection port; and

programming the microcontroller in such a way that the software is executable by the computer only when the computer is booted up from

15   the ~~bootable~~ removable memory device.

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